

R.A.F. BENEVOLENT FUND

The usual meeting of the Grants Committee was held at Iddesleigh House on Monday, November 30. Air Vice-Marshal C. A. H. Longcroft, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.F.C., was in the chair, and the other members present were: Mrs. L. M. K. Pratt Barlow, O.B.E., and Air Comdre. B. C. H. Drew, C.M.G., C.B.E. The Committee made grants to the amount of £312 5s. 7d. The next meeting was fixed for December 21.

FLYING ACCIDENT

The Air Ministry regrets to announce that A.P/O. Hugh O'Neill is missing and believed to have lost his life as the result of an accident at sea off Redcar, Yorkshire, on December 4, to an aircraft of No. 9 Flying Training School, Thornaby. A.P/O. O'Neill was the pilot and sole occupant of the aircraft.

ROYAL AIR FORCE GAZETTE

London Gazette, November 1, 1936

General Duties Branch

The following Flight Lieutenants are promoted to the rank of Squadron Leader (December 1):—C. E. Horrex, A.F.C., D. H. Carey, R. W. G. Lywood, W. A. Opie, P. R. Barwell, O. B. Swain, T. B. Prickman, G. R. M. Clifford, P. Slocombe, D. L. Thomson, P. S. Blockey, H. M. Mellor, M.V.O., A. B. Woodhall, H. H. Brookes, J. W. Colquhoun, H. I. Cozens, J. H. Powle, H. W. Whittle, C. Guppy, C. Walter, P. Jones, J. G. Franks, G. A. R. Muschamp, C. H. Tighe, V. Harris, G. B. M. Rhind, F. F. W. Hall, J. A. T. Ryde, A.F.C., G. R. Beamish, the Earl of Bandon, M. D. Ommanney, R. A. B. Stone, J. R. Addams, A.F.C., C. R. Hancock, D.F.C., R. Costa, A. E. Paish, J. B. Barrett, A. W. B. McDonald, L. T. Pankhurst.

The following Flying Officers are promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant on the dates stated:—B. H. Jones (December 14, 1935); D. P. McKeown, J. H. R. Oldfield, C. Griffiths (November 1); J. R. MacLachlan (November 26).

F/O. J. G. G. Moore is promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant (April 1) (substituted for notification in the *Gazette* of July 28).

The following Pilot Officers are promoted to the rank of Flying Officer on the dates stated:—B. H. Boon (seniority January 1) (April 1); H. H. Peck (seniority January 9) (April 9); J. B. Black, E. A. Verdon-Roe (September 16); G. T. Gilbert (October 4); R. C. Meares, J. H. Kitson, G. I. Pawson, L. H. Pomeroy (October 16); R. A. Charles-Auckland (October 27); C. N. Fleming, R. E. Sharp, S. G. Pritchard, D. P. Frost (November 3).

Flt. Lt. F. H. A. Harrison (Captain, R.A.R.O.) is granted the acting rank of Squadron Leader (unpaid) (November 16); Lt.-Cdr. H. L. Hayes, R.N., Flying Officer, R.A.F., ceases to be attached to the R.A.F. with effect from October 28, on return to Naval duty, and is reattached to the R.A.F. as a Flying Officer with effect from November 16, and with seniority of March 14, 1928; F/O. B. C. Mallinson (Lt., Royal Artillery) relinquishes his temporary commission on return to Army duty (November 18).

The short service commissions of the following Acting Pilot Officers on probation are terminated on cessation of duty (November 22):—R. W. Stanway, W. R. D. Watkins-Lewis.

Equipment Branch

Pilot Officer on probation W. J. Stutchbury is confirmed in rank and promoted to the rank of Flying Officer (September 6).

The following Flight Lieutenants are promoted to the rank of Squadron Leader (December 1):—W. C. Farley, E. N. D. Worsley, J. E. Truss, M.C., F. W. Taylor, R. T. Rich, C. W. Rugg.

ROYAL AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE

Appointments.—The following appointments in the Royal Air Force are notified:—

General Duties Branch

Wing Commander.—H. S. Kerby, D.S.C., A.F.C., to Special Duty List; on appointment as Air Attaché, Shanghai, vice Group Capt. R. P. Willock, 16.11.36. C. H. Keith, to R.A.F. Station, Worthy Down; to command, vice Group Capt. A. A. B. Thomson, M.C., A.F.C., 25.11.36.

Squadron Leader.—P. Murgatroyd, to No. 21 (Bomber) Squadron, Lympne; to command, 23.11.36.

Flight Lieutenants.—R. J. Cooper, to School of Air Navigation, Manston, 23.11.36. G. A. L. Manton, to No. 607 (County of Durham) (Fighter) Squadron, Castletown, 13.11.36. A. H. Garland, to No. 56 (Fighter) Squadron, North Weald, 24.11.36. C. D. C. Boyce, to No. 166 (Bomber) Squadron, Boscombe Down, 1.11.36. R. G. E. Catt, to No. 78 (Bomber) Squadron, Boscombe Down, 1.11.36.

Flying Officers.—C. F. Newcombe, to Air Observers School, North Coates Fitties, 17.11.36. V. H. P. Lynham, to Air Armament School, Eastchurch, 23.11.36. A. C. G. Wimbush, to No. 2 (Army Co-operation) Squadron, Hawkinge, 23.11.36. R. E. S. Skelton, to No. 16 (Army Co-operation) Squadron, Old Sarum, 23.11.36. E. D. Joyce, to No. 26 (Army Co-operation) Squadron, Catterick, 23.11.36.

Pilot Officers.—F. E. Croce, to No. 2 Flying Training School, Digby, 26.11.36. S. E. F. Curry, H. A. R. Holford, D. Nolan-Neylan, E. A. Verdon-Roe, to No. 78 (Bomber) Squadron, Boscombe Down, 1.11.36. G. M. Lindeman, E. N. Rooms, R. B. Har-

AIR DEFENCE COMMUNICATIONS

If our system of air defence is to be successful in shooting down raiding bombers, the first essential is the utmost speed of communication from the Observer posts to the defence centre. In the early Air Exercises it was thought sufficient to use the post office telephone system, but in time of war there would be obvious advantages in the Fighter Command having its own system of communications. Such a system might, of course, work in with the post office system, and yet have some degree of independence.

Provision is now being made to provide air defence communications, and the strength of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals (Territorial Army) is to be doubled. This unit is responsible for communication by telephone, telegraph, and wireless between the ground sections of air defence, and special apparatus is used which needs special training. The work should prove very interesting to men with a taste for electrical work.

Accountant Branch

The following Flight Lieutenants are promoted to the rank of Squadron Leader (December 1):—F. C. Chalmers, J. Charles, C. G. Prior.

Medical Branch

The following Flight Lieutenants are granted permanent commissions in that rank (December 1):—F. W. P. Dixon, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., D.O. (Oxon); C. R. Palfreyman, M.B., B.S.

Flt. Lt. C. A. Lewis, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., relinquishes his short service commission (November 21).

Chaplains Branch

The Rev. F. G. B. Sutherland relinquishes his short service commission on completion of service (November 24).

Commissioned Engineer Officer

Flying Officer on probation F. C. Whenman is confirmed in rank (November 15).

ROYAL AIR FORCE RESERVE**Reserve of Air Force Officers****General Duties Branch**

Sergt. P. C. Ginn, Class E Reserve, is granted a commission as Pilot Officer on probation in Class A (September 8).

The following are granted commissions as Pilot Officers in Class AA (December 1):—W. G. Bruce, E. L. Hancock, R. A. Hopkinson, C. C. Law, D. J. T. Lusk, P. B. Newsom Davis, I. E. Pease, S. C. Rochford, A. M. Taylor.

F/O. E. G. L. Russell is transferred from Class A to Class C (September 12); F/O. J. P. Morkam, D.F.C., relinquishes his commission on completion of service and is permitted to retain his rank (October 23).

AUXILIARY AIR FORCE**General Duties Branch**

No. 605 (COUNTY OF WARWICK) (BOMBER) SQUADRON.—O. Gibson is granted a commission as Pilot Officer (October 23); F/O. J. M. Abell resigns his commission (October 23).

AUXILIARY AIR FORCE RESERVE OF OFFICERS**General Duties Branch**

J. M. Abell is granted a commission as Flying Officer in Class A (October 23).

vey, E. W. Martin, to No. 166 (Bomber) Squadron, Boscombe Down, 1.11.36.

Acting Pilot Officers.—V. R. Paterson, to No. 166 (Bomber) Squadron, Boscombe Down, 1.11.36. F. Aikens, F. C. Rivers, F. W. Thomas, to No. 78 (Bomber) Squadron, Boscombe Down, 1.11.36.

Equipment Branch

Flight Lieutenant.—A. W. Rule, to R.A.F. Station, Turnhouse, 25.11.36.

Flying Officer.—L. C. Dennis, to No. 3 Stores Depot, Milton, 21.11.36.

Accountant Branch

Flight Lieutenant.—A. E. Fairs, M.C., to R.A.F. Station, Catterick, 16.11.36.

Accountant Branch

Flying Officer.—E. Bowman, to No. 30 (Bomber) Squadron, Dhibban, Iraq, 5.11.36.

Commissioned Engineer Officer

Flying Officer.—E. L. Magrath, to R.A.F. Station, Hornchurch, 23.11.36.

Medical Branch

Squadron Leaders.—F. L. White, to Central Medical Establishment, London, 23.11.36. B. W. Cross, to Aircraft Depot, Hinaidi, Iraq, 7.11.36.